## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONISTS HONOR ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERAL ACT

Several of the Nation's leading wildlife conservationists received special commemorative scrolls in Washington, D. C., August 7, 1962, at a dinner marking the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Pittman-Robertson Act providing Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration.

Those receiving the scrolls in recognition and appreciation for outstanding efforts and contributions to 25 years of wildlife restoration in the United States were: United States Senator A. Willis Robertson of Virginia, who introduced the Pittman-Robertson Act in the House of Representatives of which he was then a member; Carl D. Shoemaker of Winter Park, Fla., who was Secretary of the Senate Special Committee on Wildlife, 1930-1948, and who prepared the draft of the original Pittman-Robertson Bill; Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson of Vienna, Va., president of the Wildlife Management Institute, who was Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, 1935-1940, and first Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, 1940-1946; Albert M. Day of Harrisburg, Pa., Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, who was first Chief of the Branch of Federal Aid, 1938-1942; Robert M. Rutherford of Washington, D. C., who was Chief of the Branch of Federal Aid, 1942-1957; and Egbert C. Hadley of Middlebury, Vt., Chairman of the Board of the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute, representing the industry.

Chester F. Phelps of Richmond, Va., Executive Director of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, presented a scroll to Senator Robertson dedicating a Federal Aid area in the State of Virginia to the congressman. A congradulatory telegram to Senator Robertson from President Kennedy was read to the 300 conservationists assembled for the commemorative event.

Under Secretary of the Interior James K. Carr was principal speaker at the dinner honoring all those associated with the passage and implementation of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act which has been largely responsible for the restoration of many species of wildlife in the United States and for placing wildlife management on a scientific basis. These were accomplished by providing funds, made available from an excise tax on the manufacturer's price on sporting arms and ammunition, to the States for effective wildlife research and management programs and for the purchase and development of land and water areas for wildlife. A total of \$220,000,000 has been apportioned to States and Territories since the program began, and the States have contributed 25 percent or more of the costs of their wildlife restoration projects from their regular funds.

Legislation providing for Federal aid for the restoration of fish was passed in 1950.